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Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer Announces Enhancements for Mission Trails Regional Park

Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer announced today that he will take steps to significantly enhance the amenities and assets of Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP), which is one of the largest urban parks in the nation.

First step is to expedite completing the Mission Trails Regional Park Master Development Plan Update, which was last updated in 1985. He is proposing allocating \$200,000 from Antennae Fund #10580 in fiscal year 2009 to be used for the first phase of the MTRP Master Plan Update. The \$200,000 is in addition to the \$70,000 allocated from the Environmental Growth Fund (EGF) designated previously for fiscal year 2009. The proposal includes renaming CIP 29.943.0 from the MTRP Natural Resource Management Plan to the MTRP Master Plan as well as making the Natural Resource Management Plan a subsection of the MTRP Master Plan.

Additionally, Council President Pro Tem Madaffer is requesting that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Agreement be written between the City of San Diego and the Mission Trails Regional Task Force. The agreement would formulate phases for the Master Plan Update, formulate ways to expedite the process and provide a realistic time line for completing the project.

Lastly, he is recommending allocating \$309,000 to build a comfort station (public restroom) at the Equestrian Staging Area. The funding would be provided with \$100,000 from the MTRP Antennae Fund #10580 and \$209,000 from General Fund Capital Outlay #302453. Fund #302453 is revenue from the sale of property for the Mission Trails Flow Regulatory System.

"While Mission Trails Regional Park is one of the best assets of District 7, it is also a regional public amenity serving residents and visitors of southern California. From the opening of the Kumeyaay Campground to completing the Equestrian Staging Area to now installing a comfort station, expanding and improving the park has been a priority since my first days as a City Councilmember," stated Madaffer.

Council President Pro Tem Jim Madaffer June 30, 2008 Mission Trails Regional Park News Release

The Master Plan Update reviews issues such as parking, uses and facilities, Environmental Impact Report (EIR) analysis and mitigation at areas in the park such as Lake Murray and Cowles Mountain.

The MTRP Task Force is comprised of elected officials from the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, the City of La Mesa, the City of Santee and the Chair of the MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee.

Council President Pro Tem Madaffer said he wants the MOU between the City of San Diego and the MTRP Task Force to be completed and docketed for a City Council meeting well before the end of his term in office in December 2008.

Mission Trails Regional Park is located off Mission Gorge Road in the heart of District 7 and is only eight miles from downtown San Diego. It is nearly 5,800 acres of natural and developed recreational land and is representative of how San Diego used to be before it was settled. Mission Trails Regional Park was started in 1974 and has been called the third jewel in the City of San Diego's park system. Mission Trails Regional Park offers 40 miles of trails, boating on Lake Murray, a campground, informative hikes and a state-of-the-art Visitor & Interpretive Center. Balboa Park, Mission Bay Park and Mission Trails Regional Park provide an opportunity to explore the cultural, historical and recreational aspects of San Diego.